

## REMARKS

Claims 1-10 were examined in the March 6, 2008 final Office Action and stand rejected as obvious over FIG. 1, admitted prior art, in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,499,388 to *Adam*. Reconsideration of the rejection is requested in view of the remarks which follow.

A. Amended Title

The title has been amended to recite both a module for driving a row in a liquid crystal display and also a system for driving rows of a liquid crystal display. The title is now commensurate with the preambles of the pending claims.

B. Obviousness Rejection of Claims 1-10 is Addressed.

The rejection of claims 1-10 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as over admitted prior art (FIG. 1) in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,499,388 to *Adam* is respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to recite that in each case, the subject inverter is a “four-terminal logic inverter” which has “an input being driven by logic circuitry and “an input for providing a drive signal for one single row of said liquid crystal display”. Independent claim 6 has been amended in an analogous manner. Support for these amendments is found in FIG. 5.

Independent claims 1 and 6 now clearly relate to logic inverters, as compared to electrical inverters for power conversion, so that the Examiner’s reliance on WO 01/56133, which teaches a power inverter, is not apropos.

In addition, the claims now require a “four-terminal logic inverter” with each of the input, output, first power terminal, and second terminal individually recited as four separate and distinguishable circuit nodes, and each having assigned, non-overlapping circuit connections so that the claims are now clearly distinguishable over *Adam*. *Adam* teaches an inverter (T21, T22) having first (line between T11, T12, and T22) and second (U) power terminals. The Office Action relies on terminal U as being the output and also the power terminal. However, node (U) is in fact not a “power terminal” but rather an output node for providing an “output voltage”. See *Adam*, col. 3, lines 8-9. It is deemed that an output node cannot be reused as a power terminal when all four nodes of the inverter are set forth in the claims, each having a separate, non-overlapping connection or function. It is axiomatic in patent

law that each element in a claim is presumed to be a separate element and separate elements cannot be combined when attempting to reject the claim.

Thus, *Adam* in combination with admitted prior art cannot be said to teach or suggest the claimed "four-terminal logic inverter" of the present invention wherein each of the four inverter circuit nodes having non-overlapping functions or connections are claimed. The obviousness rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is respectfully traversed as all of the claimed limitations found in claims 1 and 6 are not present in the hypothetical combination of the two references. Claims 1 and 6 are therefore deemed to be allowable over admitted prior art FIG. 1 taken with *Adam*. Remaining claims 2-5 and 7-10 are deemed to be allowable as being dependent upon an allowable base claim. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the § 103(a) rejection are therefore respectfully requested.

C. Petition for 1-Month Extension.

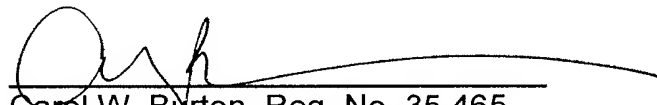
Applicant hereby petitions for a one-month extension, from June 6, 2008 to July 6, 2008 in which to respond to the Office Action. Please charge Deposit Account No. 50-1123 the \$120.00 large entity 1-month extension fee and any additional fees associated with this transmittal.

D. Conclusion.

Pending claims 1-10 all being in form for allowance, such action is respectfully requested. Should any issues remain, the Examiner is kindly asked to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

June 23, 2008



Carol W. Burton, Reg. No. 35,465  
Hogan & Hartson L.L.P.  
1200 17th Street, Suite 1500  
Denver, Colorado 80202  
Telephone: (303) 454-2454  
Facsimile: (303) 899-7333